

EMBARGOED UNTIL 10:00AM SATURDAY MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> Contact: Senator Jerry Petrowski

May 18, 2018 (608) 266-2502

## American Heart Association Names Senator Petrowski Legislator of the Year

**Wausau, WI...**Today, the American Heart Association recognized Senator Jerry Petrowski (*R-Marathon*) with the Legislator of the Year award at the 2018 Wausau Heart Walk in honor of his leadership on the Dispatcher Assisted CPR law, which was signed by the Governor on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

"The public hearings on this law brought forth truly moving testimony from people whose lives have been impacted by cardiac arrest and even those who credit dispatcher assisted CPR with saving their lives or the lives of their loved ones," said Sen. Petrowski. "This law will ensure that life-saving instruction is just a phone call away for every Wisconsinite and I'm grateful to have had the chance to author such an important piece of legislation."

2017 Wisconsin Act 296 requires public safety answering points (PSAP) to provide, in appropriate circumstances, telephonic assistance on administering CPR. The bill also requires the Department of Health Services to distribute grants or money for the purpose of training dispatchers to provide CPR instruction over the phone. Under the bill, every PSAP must either 1) have dispatchers trained and certified to provide telephonic instruction on administering CPR to a person who has called 911; or 2) transfer callers to a PSAP that can provide such instruction.

This is the third legislative session in a row that Sen. Petrowski has been honored as Legislator of the Year by the American Heart Association.

###